

Spring Cadet Rocketry Weekend

Written by 1Lt Ger Button

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The Richland Cadet Squadron hosted the Spring Cadet Rocketry Weekend to help SC cadets complete the CAP Model Rocket Program requirements. The participants included cadets and seniors from five squadrons: Richland Cadet, Anderson Composite, Dent Middle School Cadet, Murrells Inlet Cadet, and Sumter Composite Squadrons. 26 cadets attended with 14 completing the Stage Two and Three requirements. Stage One was completed

Prior to attending the weekend activity. Seven cadets participated in the first advanced program which included mentoring cadets and the construction of three foot long D engine rockets. Two cadets from the Richland Cadet Squadron were awarded prizes: C/AIC Caleb Myers and C/AB Richard Fish based on the results of the launches.

1Lt Ger Button taught the cadets how to build and design their rockets from scrap paper such as FedEx packaging materials and plastic shopping bags. The technique significantly reduces the cost of constructing the three solid fuel rockets described in the Stage Two and Three requirements. Senior Members Capt Tom Reid (Murrells Inlet Cadet) and 2Lt Glenn Booker (Sumter Composite) worked closely with the cadets in guiding their efforts.

The cadets arrived on Friday evening and set up tents. The classes and hands-on activities were conducted on Saturday and Sunday to include a Saturday night DDR presentation conducted around the campfire by Maj Frank Kelly, Deputy Director of the Clarendon County Detention Center with assistance from Maj Lavonne Adams. Sunday afternoon included final rocket launches, a mini-air show arranged by MSgt Michael Matthews of the McEntire JNGB and fellowship among parents, cadets and seniors.

Cadets are encouraged to make plans now to complete Stage One at squadron meetings and attend the next CRW.